

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

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R 261743Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3230

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3608

MADRID ALSO FOR AMB CARLUCCI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REFS: (A) LISBON 3524; (B) A-147; (C) LISBON 3577

SUMMARY: INTRA-SERVICE MEETINGS IN ANTICIPATION OF NEXT
ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) GENERAL ASSEMBLY ARE NOW BEING
SCHEDULED. TIME FOR ASSEMBLY HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED.
COMMUNISTS, ANXIOUS TO SHOW THAT THEY LIKE SOCIALISTS CAN PUT
PEOPLE IN STREETS, HAVE SCHEDULED RALLY IN LISBON JUNE 28.
REPUBLICA/RADIO RENASCENCA CASES REMAIN AT IMPASSE. "SECRET
DOCUMENT" PRINTED IN O CASO DO JORNAL REPUBLICA JUNE 21 ALLEGED
TO BE COMMUNIST INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTIES, CONTINUES TO OCCUPY
ATTENTION. PCP HAS ISSUED STATEMENT DENYING AUTHENTICITY OF
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DOCUMENT AND INFERRING THAT CIA BEHIND IT, BUT RESISTING

TEMPTATION TO ATTACK SOCIALISTS. END SUMMARY.

1. AFM PREPARES FOR ASSEMBLY: PLANS ARE UNDERWAY IN THREE BRANCHES OF ARMED FORCES TO HOLD PREPARATORY MEETINGS BEGINNING IN NEXT FEW DAYS IN ANTICIPATION OF AFM GENERAL ASSEMBLY SOMETIME DURING COMING MONTH. EXACT DATE AND TIME FOR ASSEMBLY HAVE NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED. POLITICAL APPROACH AND ACTION PROGRAM OUTLINED IN JUNE 21 DECLARATION OF REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE FOCAL POINT OF ASSEMBLY DELIBERATIONS.

2. PCP PLANS RALLY: COMMUNISTS (PCP) HAVE ANNOUNCED THEY WILL SPONSOR RALLY ON JUNE 28 IN BULLRING IN DOWNTOWN LISBON. THEME WILL BE: "WITH THE PCP FOR POPULAR UNITY MOVING TOWARD SOCIALISM." PARTY LEADER CUNHAL WILL PRESIDE. IT WILL BE FIRST FORMAL PARTY RALLY IN LISBON SINCE CLOSE OF ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN. (COMMENT: PARTY LEADERS, IN SCHEDULING RALLY, OBVIOUSLY HAVE VERY MUCH IN MIND RECENT MASSIVE DEMONSTRATION SPONSORED BY SOCIALISTS (LISBON 3524). PCP WANTS TO SHOW QUICKLY THAT IT TOO CAN STILL BRING THE PEOPLE OUT.

3. REPUBLICA/RADIO RENASCENCA IMPASSES CONTINUE: BOTH CASES REMAIN ON DEAD CENTER. REPUBLICA CONTROVERSY HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY OVERSHADOWED HERE BY SENSATIONALIST TREATMENT BEING GIVEN TO O JORNAL DO CASO REPUBLICA JUNE 21 PUBLICATION OF "SECRET DOCUMENT" ALLEGEDLY AUTHORED BY PONOMAREV (LISBON 3577). (JORNAL NOVO HAS OUTDONE ITSELF WITH A PHOTO MONTAGE ON FRONT PAGE OF JUNE 25 EDITION SHOWING SMUG-LOOKING SOVIET PARTY LEADER BREZHNEV WITH COPY OF JORNAL DO CASO REPUBLICA CONSPICUOUSLY TUCKED UNDER HIS ARM. CAPTION UNDER PICTURE IS: "READER SINCE THE LAST ISSUE.") WORKERS OF REPUBLICA AND RADIO RENASCENSA (RR) ARE NOW ISSUING SEPARATE DAILY PRESS BULLETINS IN EFFORT TO OFFSET PUBLICITY WHICH IS BEING GENERATED BOTH THERE AND ABROAD BY SOCIALISTS AND CHURCH. IN OPORTO, IN INCIDENT APPARENTLY NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO SUBSTANCE OF RR DISPUTE, CONSUL REPORTS DISORDERS BROKE OUT BETWEEN RIVAL GROUPS OF WORKERS ATTENDING ROUND TABLE ON LABOR AFFAIRS BEING BROADCAST OVER CHURCH-CONTROLLED RR TRANSMITTERS. COPCON UNITS HAD TO BE CALLED IN TO RESTORE ORDER, AND RIVAL GROUPS NOT COMPLETELY DISPERSED UNTIL EARLY HOURS OF MORNING JUNE 26.

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4. PCP COMMENTS ON REPUBLICA EXPOSE: POLITICAL COMMISSION OF PCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE ISSUED STATEMENT JUNE 25 DENYING AUTHENTICITY OF ALLEGED INSTRUCTIONS FROM MOSCOW PRINTED IN JUNE 21 EDITION OF "JORNAL DO CASO REPUBLICA." STATEMENT DESCRIBED ARTICLE AS "VULGARITY" OF TYPE IN WHICH CIA IS HIGHLY SPECIALIZED. STATEMENT ADDED THAT ACTION REVEALS RESORT TO "OLD AND SHOPWORN ANTI-COMMUNIST ARSENAL" WITH LITTLE IMAGINATION ON PART OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE.

5. COMMENT: STATEMENT CONSPICUOUSLY FAILED TO MENTION SOCIALISTS IN INFERRING DIE HARD COLD WARRIORS WITHIN CIA WERE RESPONSIBLE. TEMPTATION TO USE INCIDENT TO ATTACK SOCIALISTS MUST HAVE BEEN GREAT. FACT THAT PCP RESISTED REFLECTS CURRENT PCP EMPHASIS UPON SEEKING COOPERATIVE RELATIONS WITH SOCIALISTS, PARTICULARLY AT WORKING LEVEL.

6. IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW REPUBLICA CASE CAN BE SOLVED EASILY. FOR ANY OF PROTAGONISTS (AFM, PS, WORKERS, MANAGEMENT), TO BACK DOWN NOW WOULD CAUSE UNACCEPTABLE LOSS OF FACE. ONE SOLUTION TO IMPASSE INCREASINGLY BEING SUGGESTED IS THE OPENING OF A "NEW" REPUBLICA WITH EQUIPMENT AND MONEY DONATED FROM ABROAD.
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